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Title: Quest of the Virtues

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Volume 2

Chapter 13: Sacrifice

"The courage to give of oneself in the name of love." Usually you give something that you hold dear to help out someone in need. Whether this is giving gold or equipment to a young adventurer or giving up fame to release a creature from bondage, Sacrifice is an action that should always come from the heart. The Ankh of Sacrifice is stained red with the blood of those who have given their lives to help others. Beautiful flowers abound as loved ones honor the graves of the ones they hold dear. May we all be ready and willing to sacrifice that which is important to ourselves to help those less fortunate.

Chapter 14: Highway to Compassion

The Shrine of Sacrifice is located a fair distance Northeast of the beautiful seatown of Vesper. Tonight I will stay in the Ironwood Inn on the Southwest corner of Vesper. I wake up refreshed and eager to continue my journey. I thank the innkeeper for my fine room and head West out of town towards the Shrine of Compassion. Through peaceful forests I came and stopped fast at the desert of Compassion. Crossing this lake of

sand teeming with  
venomous and foul  
creatures would be  
difficult at best. The  
temptation to tame a  
few Giant Scorpions to  
protect me was  
overwhelming, but would  
violate the Rules of my  
Quest. I grab my cleaver  
from my backpack in an  
attempt to scare away  
the beasts with its  
menacing stare. So as  
thus I set foot into this  
wasteland of sand, praying  
to the gods to assist me  
in my dash to the Shrine  
of Compassion. Although  
snakes were easily  
dispatched with my  
cleaver (even with my  
lack of skill with the  
blade), Sand Vortexes  
were more of a problem.  
Many times did they  
chase me away and  
quickly did they follow me  
across the sand. 'Twould  
be a game of cunning to  
reach my beloved Shrine.  
Finally the cursed Sand  
Vortex was dumbfounded  
as to reaching me  
through the house blocking  
his way. A snake gave  
good fight by biting me  
and injecting his venom. I  
showed Compassion upon  
the creature and allowed  
it to live as I ran quickly  
to my destination, the  
Shrine of Compassion.

Chapter 15: Compassion  
Compassion is to bestow  
aid upon those less  
fortunate than you are. I  
cannot help but think of  
the many prisoners I have  
encountered in the wild,  
bound by a savage band  
of orcs or bandits. May  
we all strive to help  
those in need, those that  
we can help. For someday  
we may be in need  
ourselves and will  
undoubtedly desire

Compassion from our  
fellow man.

## Chapter 16: Following the Way of Justice

The Shrine of Justice,  
my final destination, lies  
further West of

Compassion. Eager to  
complete my journey, I  
travel on, the excitement  
of impending completion  
causing me to forget my  
weariness. Out of sheer  
curiosity I paid a visit  
to the Shrine of Chaos,  
a foul place for only the  
evil. No more will I speak  
of it here. Along the  
road I came across a  
fellow traveler who goes  
by the name of Dexter.

After speaking with him  
for a good time I told  
him of my Quest and my  
desire for Knighthood  
within my Guild. I bade  
him to seek out the  
Virtues and wished him  
good day as I continued  
on my Quest. My steps  
turned North through  
dense forestry as I seek  
Justice. The Shrine of  
Justice was guarded by a  
Troll, an Ogre and a  
Headless One. Far more  
than a match for me and  
my poor cleaver. I must  
pay my devotion quickly  
and run from these  
bloodthirsty foes.

## Chapter 17: Justice

In today's world it seems  
as though more and more  
people are turning to the  
mindless slaying of  
innocents for pleasure.

We who are innocent  
must take great offense  
at this and stand up for  
what is right. These  
murderers should be  
brought to swift justice  
and their possessions  
given to the poor as  
penance for their crimes.  
As I was telling Dexter, I  
could not bring myself to

slay an innocent without provocation. It's just not who I am. I love the truth of goodness and must uphold it, taking up arms if necessary.

#### Chapter 18: The Journey Home

So from this final Shrine  
I turn my road Southward  
back to the town of  
Skara Brae, for there  
will my Quest be  
complete. The road from  
the Shrine of Justice to  
Skara Brae is quite long.  
Through dense forests  
and over long widening  
roads is the journey  
travelled. Finally I arrived  
back at the bank of  
Skara Brae. It is here  
that I pen this final  
chapter of my Quest.  
May those that read this  
Journal gain knowledge of  
the Virtues and strive  
to follow them in their  
actions and life. If this  
is to be your Quest as  
well, I wish you godspeed  
and safe journeys.

Autenil

Ranger Knight

The Defenders of Virtue